Application Guide

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness..."

October 3, 2004: Kimber Kauffman, Senior Pastor of College Park, continued his series on Matthew with message on the forth Beatitude (Matt 5:6), "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be satisfied (ESV)."

During his passionate message and encouragement for us to live such lives, Pastor gave illustrations of how people who are desperately hungry and/or thirsty can think of nothing else and are driven with such determination that they put forth great efforts to satisfying their physical needs...even to the point of fighting for their own lives. In like manner, Pastor points out that if we make it our daily quest, our all consuming, constant thought and desire to seek the kingdom and God and his righteousness above all else that we think and do, then God promises that we will be filled/satisfied. [The Greek word *chortazo* translated satisfied means to fill or satisfy one's desire].

Application Questions:

- A. Have any of you ever been really hungry or thirsty...to such a degree that it was an all consuming drive on your part to satisfy your desperate need for food or drink? What was it like?
- B. What would be the results of our Christian walk if we truly sought to do the will of God, to live in accordance with the pattern of God's plan for us (Romans 12:2) with such intentional drive and determination as one who is desperately hungering and thirsting after food and drink?
- C. What would be the benefits of such a life as reflected in Psalm 126:6, Matthew 6:33, Ephesians 3:15-21 and Philippians 1:9-11.
- D. What would happen in our relationship with others if we lived such a life? Our relationship with God? With family? With friends? With neighbors? With fellow Christians? With our enemies?
 - Sidebar Question: What did Pastor say that taking the Lord's name in vain in Exodus 20:7 really meant? How does that apply to this beatitude?
- E. Discuss practical ways we might go about living such a life (as described in B above).
- F. Ask of yourself, what is it that you seek on a daily basis that gets in your way of truly living such a life?
- G. What practical things can we do in our flock group to encourage one another to truly live such lives for God?
- H. What encouragement do you need? How might we help you?